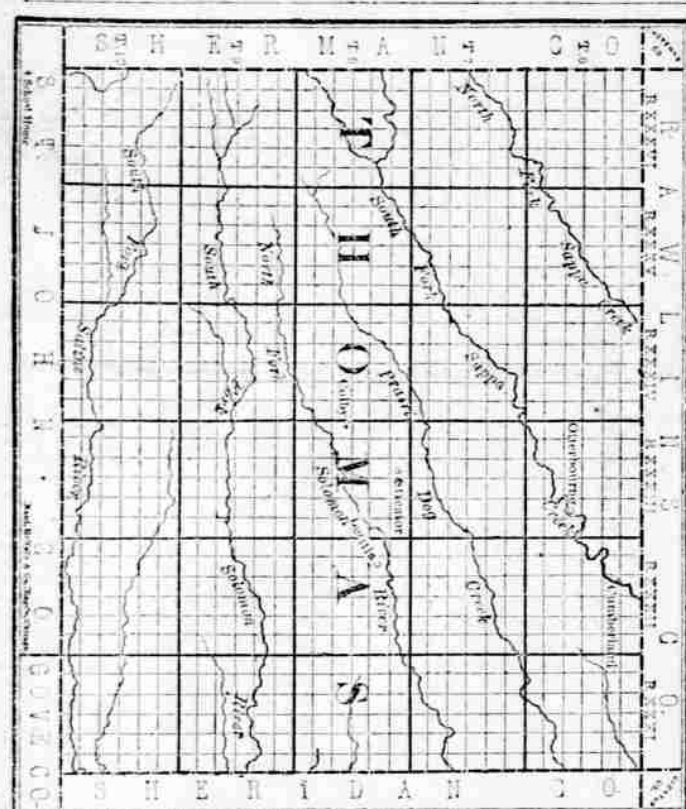


THOMAS COUNTY, KANSAS.

VOL. I. NO. 9.

COLBY, THOMAS COUNTY, KANSAS, THURSDAY, MAY 7, 1885.

\$1.50 PER YEAR.



THOMAS COUNTY, KANSAS.

CHARTER

Colby Town Site Company.

STATE OF KANSAS,
COUNTY OF THOMAS,
I, E. B. Allen, Secretary of State of Kansas, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the original instrument of writing filed in my office April 14, 1885.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of the State of Kansas, this 14th day of April, A. D. 1885.

By W. F. CANNON, Secretary of State.

That the name of this Corporation shall be Colby Town Site Company.

That the purposes for which this Corporation is formed are to acquire and hold real estate in Thomas County, Kansas, the location and laying out of town sites and the sale and conveyance of the same in lots and subdivisions, or otherwise, to erect buildings, sink artesian wells and perform such other labor and make such improvements as are incident thereto.

That the places where business is to be transacted are at Colby, Thomas County, Kansas, and such other places as may be designated by the board of directors.

That the term for which this Corporation is to exist is ninety-nine years.

That the number of Directors or Trustees of this Corporation shall be seven and the names and residences of those who are appointed for the first year are:

D. B. Hoag, Wyandotte, Kan.
D. M. Dunn, Colby, Kan.
S. C. Mills, Colby, Kan.
H. W. Allen, Colby, Kan.
J. R. McDaniel, Colby, Kan.
W. H. Freeman, Colby, Kan.

That the estimated value of the goods, chattels, lands, rights and credits owned by the Corporation is \$300,000; that the amount of the capital stock of the Corporation shall be \$100,000, and shall be divided into one hundred shares, of \$1,000 each.

That the names of the subscribers to the capital stock of this Corporation are as follows:

D. B. Hoag, D. M. Dunn, S. C. Mills, H. W. Allen, J. R. McDaniel, W. H. Freeman.

By-Laws of the Colby Town Site Company.

This company is duly organized and existing under and by the laws of the State of Kansas for the purposes of purchasing real estate in Thomas County, Kansas, the location and laying out of town sites and the sale of the same, to erect buildings, sink artesian wells and make such improvements as are incident thereto.

Section 1. The officers shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and have general and superintending authority over the affairs of the company, shall sign all checks and orders payable to the company and may employ such subordinate officers or agents as may be necessary to carry out the business of the company and do such other duties as are usual for a President to perform.

The Vice-President shall act in the absence of the President and shall discharge the duties of the President.

The Secretary shall keep present at all Board meetings and have and keep all the books and records of the company, shall sign all checks and orders payable to the company and may employ such subordinate officers or agents as may be necessary to carry out the business of the company and do such other duties as are usual for a Secretary to perform.

The Treasurer shall keep present at all Board meetings and have and keep all the books and records of the company, shall sign all checks and orders payable to the company and may employ such subordinate officers or agents as may be necessary to carry out the business of the company and do such other duties as are usual for a Treasurer to perform.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall meet on the first day of January, May, July, October and January, and may hold additional meetings at such other times as may be deemed necessary.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall have and keep all the books and records of the company, shall sign all checks and orders payable to the company and may employ such subordinate officers or agents as may be necessary to carry out the business of the company and do such other duties as are usual for a Board of Directors to perform.

Section 4. The Board of Directors shall have and keep all the books and records of the company, shall sign all checks and orders payable to the company and may employ such subordinate officers or agents as may be necessary to carry out the business of the company and do such other duties as are usual for a Board of Directors to perform.

Section 5. The Board of Directors shall have and keep all the books and records of the company, shall sign all checks and orders payable to the company and may employ such subordinate officers or agents as may be necessary to carry out the business of the company and do such other duties as are usual for a Board of Directors to perform.

Section 6. The Board of Directors shall have and keep all the books and records of the company, shall sign all checks and orders payable to the company and may employ such subordinate officers or agents as may be necessary to carry out the business of the company and do such other duties as are usual for a Board of Directors to perform.

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IMPORTANT LAWS.

Synopsis of the United States Homestead, Pre-emption and Timber-Culture Laws, and the State School Land Law.

Homestead Act.

To the people of Europe, where the high price of real estate confers distinction upon its owners, it seems beyond belief that the Government of the United States should give away 160 acres of land for nothing. Yet such is the fact. A compliance with the homestead law and the payment of small fees and commissions to the local officers secure the title to a quarter-section of Government land. Laborers in other countries, who find it difficult to support their families, can here acquire wealth, social privileges, and political honors by a few years' of intelligent industry and patient frugality.

All in the Atlantic or Eastern States who are dissatisfied with the slow, tedious methods of reaching independence, will find rich rewards awaiting settlers on the public land in Northwestern Kansas, who have talent and energy, while the unfortunate in business, and those who are burdened with debt, can in this country start anew in the race of life, for the homestead law is a law of opportunity.

The provisions of this chapter shall in any event become liable to the satisfaction of any debt contracted prior to the issuing of the patent therefor.

Citizens and those who have declared their intention to become citizens, and over twenty-one years of age, or the heads of families, irrespective of the amount of land already owned, may claim under the homestead laws, to the extent of 160 acres, any unoccupied Government lands in Northwestern Kansas.

The party applying for lands under the homestead laws must present to the Register of the local land office, for the district in which the lands applied for are situated, an application to enter, under section 2283 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, and a description of the land applied for, and at the same time file his or her affidavit stating forth that the applicant is qualified, and that said application is made for the exclusive benefit of the applicant, and for the purpose of actual settlement and cultivation of the land.

Where the applicant has made actual settlement on the land he desires to enter, he is entitled to ninety days from date of settlement to appear in person at the local land office to file an affidavit, as above stated. If not an actual settler at the time of filing application and affidavit, he will be allowed a month in which to establish his residence thereon.

By making entries above, an incentive right is vested in the settler, and his final title depends on his continuous residence upon and cultivation of the land embraced in his claim. This residence and cultivation must continue five years from date of entry, unless he is a soldier or sailor in the late war. Or, if he prefers to pay for his land as a private entry, he may, after six months' residence and cultivation, make the necessary proof of that fact, and pay \$1.25 per acre. This early payment is called commutation homestead entry.

The refusal of the wife to live on homestead, provided the husband complies with the law, will not injure his rights.

A man and woman after making each a homestead entry, may marry without invalidating their rights, if the law is complied with. As to residence and cultivation, either homestead may be conducted, if they choose.

Where a man and woman marry after each has made a homestead entry of adjoining land, they may live in a house built on the dividing line between the two homesteads.

A homestead double house, built on the dividing line between adjoining homesteads, is residence in compliance with the law.

The pre-emption privilege is restricted to heads of families, widows, or such persons over the age of twenty-one years who are citizens of the United States, or who have declared their intention to become citizens, as required by the naturalization laws.

Persons who are excluded who own 320 acres of land. Under the pre-emption laws the head of a family means the actual living head of a family. A deserted wife or one whose husband is a confirmed drunkard, may be the head of a family, or a married woman who has minor children and has been abandoned without cause by her husband and left to support and maintain herself and children is the head of a family and entitled to pre-empt in her own name.

From the moment a claimant enters upon unoccupied Government lands in Northwestern Kansas, with the intention of remaining and entering the same according to law, and does so, he is entitled to a settlement, his next step toward securing title is the filing of his declaratory statement within the time specified, which is ninety days from date of settlement. After the ninety days, as stated above, the claimant will be required to make final proof and payment within thirty months, at \$1.25 per acre, but may make proof at any time after six months' continuous residence and cultivation, at the option of claimant.

When an individual has made a settlement on a tract and filed his pre-emption declaration therefor he may change his filing into a homestead, if he continue in good faith to comply with the pre-emption laws until such change is effected, and the time during which the party has resided upon and claimed the land as a pre-emptor will be credited upon the period of residence and cultivation required under the homestead law.

Timber Culture.

The object of the timber culture law is to promote the growth of more timber by providing a method of acquiring title to public lands on condition that timber shall be grown thereon to the extent and for the period of time therein specified. The wisdom of this law is seen in the increased annual rainfall in regions heretofore subject to frequent droughts.

The person putting out the timber realizes all the benefits which accrue to the land and has the timber in after years for his own use.

Persons who are qualified under the homestead law are eligible under the timber-culture law. Not more than 160 acres in any one section can be entered under the timber-culture law, and no person can make more than one entry.

It is required that a settler under application similar to that required under the homestead law is required in this case, with the addition that the application shall specify that the section in which the land applied for is situated is naturally devoid of timber.

The applicant is required to pay to the local land office the same fees and commissions as in case of homestead entry.

The entryman is required to break five acres of the land taken within one year from the date of entry. During the second year from date of entry the applicant should break five acres more, and cultivate the first five to crops or otherwise.

The third year he must plant the five acres broken the second year to trees, trees or cuttings, and cultivate that portion broken the second year.

The fourth year he should plant the five acres broken the second year to trees, trees or cuttings, and cultivate that portion broken the second year.

Thereafter he must continue to cultivate the entire five acres for a period of eight years from date of entry. No final certificate shall be given or patent issued for the land entered, until the expiration of eight years from date of entry, or if at the expiration of such time, or at any time within five years thereafter, the person making the entry, or if he or she be dead, his or her heirs or legal representatives shall prove by two credible witnesses that he or she or they have planted and for not less than eight years have cultivated and protected the required quantity and character of trees, that not less than 2,700 trees were planted on each acre, and at the time of making proof there shall be then growing at least 675 living trees to each acre, they shall be entitled to receive a patent for such tract of land.

In case the trees, seeds or cuttings are destroyed by grasshoppers, or extreme and unusual drought, or for any other unavoidable cause, for any year or term of years, the time for planting such trees, seeds or cuttings is extended one year for every such year that they are so destroyed, provided the parties file an affidavit with the Register or Receiver setting forth the facts and asks for an extension by reason thereof.

By recent instructions trees that are of value for domestic purposes or for firewood and domestic purposes are included among the trees that may be planted and cultivated. The planting of black walnut and other trees will produce the greatest income is recommended.

The planting of fruit trees and shrubbery is not in compliance with the law.

Land acquired under this act is not subject to the payment of debts or liabilities incurred prior to the issuance of patent.

State School Land Laws.

By the laws of the State of Kansas, it is provided that all lands granted by the Congress of the United States for school purposes, known as sections 16 and 36, in each Congressional township, together with all such as have been granted in lieu of said sections, may be sold, and such sale shall be regulated as follows:

Whenever twenty householders of any organized township in which the land is situated, shall petition the Superintendent of Public Schools of the county in which the land is located, to expose for sale any portion of said land, describing the same, the County Superintendent shall, by and with the consent of the County Commissioners of said county, appoint in writing three disinterested householders residing in the county in which the land is situated, who shall appraise each legal subdivision of said land separately at its real value, and in case any parcel of the said land shall have been improved, the appraisers shall, in addition, make a separate appraisal of the improvements upon the land, but no land can be sold at less than \$3 per acre.

Any person who has settled upon and improved any portion of school lands prior to the appointment, may within sixty days from the appointment file in the Probate Court of the county a petition setting forth that fact and the amount of the improvement, and asking that he be allowed to purchase the land at the appraised price, less the improvements. If the settler proves to the satisfaction of the court the facts set forth in his petition, the petitioner may purchase said land, not exceeding one quarter section, for the appraised value thereof, exclusive of the improvements.

The County Treasurer shall then offer the unsold portion of all school lands (included in the petition of the twenty householders and not claimed by actual settlers) at public auction, and giving four weeks' notice thereof in some newspaper published in such county.

Any person purchasing such land shall pay to the Treasurer of the county in which the same is situated one-tenth of the purchase money, and shall execute a proper bond, conditioned that he will pay the balance of the purchase money within twenty years, at six per cent. annual interest, as the same becomes due. Purchaser may pay the principal at any time in installments of not less than \$25. By promptly paying the interest and taxes the purchaser is entitled to an extension of twenty years after the principal becomes due.

For further information in regard to land, Government, deeded, school land or town property, write to A. L. Worcester, or Copeland & Pairs, Colby, Thomas County, Kansas.

W. C. Horn deserted from the Confederate army at the battle of Gettysburg, and has since been mourned as dead. Recently he returned to his home in Tombstone, Ariz., and was surprised to find that he was a free man.

—A boy was recently before a police court in San Francisco on the charge of having maliciously stabbed a number of his playmates. Upon investigation it was found that the promising youth was in the habit of sticking a penknife into other children for the fun of hearing them howl. His victims numbered a half-dozen or more.

THE TOMBS BARBER.

What He Says About the Persons Whose Faces He Lathers—Particular Customs.

"Yes, I am the Tombs barber," said Morris Haber, an intelligent young German, who was found in his barber shop on Canal Street by a reporter, "and you are the first newspaper fellow to find me out, although I have held that position for nearly two years. Any other barbers admitted to the prisons? No, sir; I am the only one, and was appointed by the Commissioners of Charities and Correction. Salary? Not any. My earnings consist of what the prisoners give me, except in cases of condemned murderers, and then the Sheriff pays me."

"I am allowed to enter the prison at any time, but usually only go there three days of the week, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. I am now shaving about twenty prisoners a day there, and what I get averages about eight dollars a week. No prisoners are compelled to shave, but the greater number who have any spare change always wish to. This is generally the case with those who are about to go into court. They want to make their best appearance before the court and jury, and it has come to be a common saying among them that a clean shave means ten years of their sentence."

"In winter I go there regularly every morning at eight o'clock and in summer at seven o'clock. I carry my razors, scissors, soap and bottles in a small hand-bag, and my hair-clipping machine in a leather case. I am now shaving six or six razors with me every time. When I get there, the first thing I do is to look over the slate and find the prisoners' names marked with an 'X.' This means that they are the ones who are to go to court. As court always opens at ten o'clock, and as I have learned from experience how much importance is attached to a 'clean shave' by the prisoners, with reference to their appearance in the court-room, I always take pains to get through with the 'court cases' early and as soon as possible, even leaving my regular customers there—and I have several—until they are out of the way."

"I go about each row of cells the first thing, and I ask each prisoner whether he wants a shave or not. Sometimes I find a great many who do and then it is lively work for I have to shave them in their cells, and I there are no chairs in them for the men to sit on, consequently I have to shave them sitting on the edge of their narrow beds. In each case the keeper looks me in with the prisoner, and I have to call his attention by knocking on the door when I am done and want to get out."

"I have never had a prisoner molest me or even ask rudely to me while at my work there, notwithstanding the fact that the Tombs has an average of from 150 to 200 prisoners all the time, and from all classes of criminals. The prison seems to have a quieting influence on them and they are more polite to me as a rule, in saying their 'good morning' and 'good day,' than many outside. I have never had them ask me to bring them things they are permitted to have or try to get me to help them to escape or get the best of the keepers. As for the sight of my razors stirring up any desperate thoughts in the minds of any of them, if they have I've never known of it."

"The new prisoners seldom talk to me, and of course I don't ask questions. Naturally the faces are changing all the time, in the going away of some and coming in of new prisoners. Every now and then some new comer will greet me with a 'how-dy-do,' and I will find that he is an old offender who has been in the Tombs before and remembers me. But they all seem glad to see me, and I am glad to see them in their prison life. Those who have been there some time talk more, and sometimes tell me about their cases, but I don't take much interest in the particulars, naturally, though I give the poor fellows all the sympathy I can."

"My oldest customer here? Let me see. It is Conroy, I guess, the police convict who was sentenced to life for the charge of murder. He has been in the Tombs about seventeen months, and is now waiting for a new trial. I believe I have shaved him regularly twice a week since he has been there, and he is one of those who have talked to me about their affairs."

"Another of my regular customers there is Danovan, condemned to imprisonment for life for killing a man with a billiard cue. He is also waiting for a new trial. He has been there a year. John Carpenter, condemned to be hung for killing his wife, is another of my customers there. He has been in the Tombs eight months, hoping for a new trial."

"People might readily think that these men, knowing that they must stay there so long, and perhaps in prison forever, or be hung, would get careless about their appearance, and let the barber go by. But they don't, and they are as particular to be shaved twice a week as my customers here at the shop. They will take pride in their looks, and as they have frequent visitors, they want to look nice for them, I suppose."

"One of the most particular customers I ever had in there was Rhineland, the man that was claimed to be insane. He was in a long time, and always paid me extra, but he was very particular to be shaved three times a week, and just as he shaved he would get very angry. Very few, however, pay me extra. They are not lavish with their money when they get in the Tombs, and those who are fortunate enough to have any keep it very close."

"Billy McElroy paid me extra, though, and I found him a very nice man. Another man I thought was pretty nice was Martin, the celebrated counterfeiter. He became blind while in there and was in the hospital. He had a long beard and was very particular to have it trimmed to a hair. Another very particular man was a negro of Spanish descent, a young man condemned for murder. He was always one of the neatest and cleanest-looking men in the whole lot, and he always wanted me to take great pains over him. He was a fine fellow, and gave him a clean shave."

—N. J. McElroy and Rhineland.

THE SEA DOCTOR.

Duties and Trials of a Steamship Physician—His Petty Responsibilities.

The duties of steamship doctors are far more onerous than is generally supposed. Upon these zealous and painstaking officials fall a hundred petty cares of which the passengers know nothing. To mention at once one of his most disagreeable duties: the ventilation and disinfecting of the ship is all carried on under the doctor's directions, and in rough weather he is sometimes obliged to issue formal orders to steerage passengers to leave their poorly lighted bunks below to come up into the keen air and the dashing spray. In rare cases, force has actually to be employed to make people leave their beds; there are ominous threatnings and grumblings, but returning health makes the recalcitrant patients ashamed of their obstinacy. Indeed the sailors passengers are now and then more for a story than the humble denizens of the steerage. The doctor and the purser, too, together share the burden of the innumerable questions hurled at the Captain by the passengers. Ten thousand demands concerning everything, from the science of navigation to the prospect of a safe and speedy arrival, are heaped upon the naturally good-natured trio of officials, every one of whom has probably been asked each question at least a hundred times before. Even when the passage from port to port is smooth there is enough for a conscientious medical officer to do; but when the rough gales sweep down on the Atlantic the labor is quite trying.

"In the midst of a terrible cyclone, some years ago," recently said a veteran sea doctor to the writer, "when the good ship literally stood on her beam ends, and when it seemed as if she would be swept away into the abyss, I suddenly felt the quaking of sea sickness creeping over me. It was the first time I had been thus affected for many years, but they were none the less terrible, and I felt like crawling into my room and resigning myself to them. Just as I was about to do this I was told that a sailor in the fore-cabin had one of his legs broken, and I was compelled to go to him and summon all the skill and courage I could command for surgical practice. Scarcely had I finished this exhausting work when another sailor on deck was nearly killed, and I had to spend the rest of the day over him. Before I had finished the second operation I had quite forgotten my own illness."

Sometimes, despite the elaborate precautions taken by the steamship companies in shipping passengers, the doctor awakens after the voyage is begun to the horrible consciousness that he is faced with an infectious disease, which may spread throughout the ship and result in the destruction of the reputation of the line. He sets to work to isolate the stricken one, and if small-pox is the disorder, he persuades every one except the sick that it is nothing of the kind, and in the meantime takes extraordinary pains to get the sufferers out of sight. He extemporizes a hospital, and places a trusty attendant in charge; he issues orders that no cabin passengers shall be allowed to visit the steerage, and that no occupant of the steerage shall appear on the saloon decks. He delegates every hole and corner with disinfectants, and when asked by passengers why it is done, answers that "one can never be too careful at sea."

If a patient dies of small-pox he is buried at once, or at any rate the stevedores are ordered to visit the steerage, and that no occupant of the steerage shall appear on the saloon decks. He delegates every hole and corner with disinfectants, and when asked by passengers why it is done, answers that "one can never be too careful at sea."

"Do you meet much with diphtheria on your voyages?" the writer inquired of the doctor above referred to.

"Why, yes, lots of it, and it is a question which is the worse of the two on board ship, small-pox, or diphtheria. Only a few weeks ago, while on the voyage to England, a mother in the steerage sent for me, and when I went to her, I found her on her knees to save her two children from the perils of diphtheria, with which they seemed threatened. 'O doctor,' she said, 'as long as I have heart would break, diphtheria has taken me of every near relative I have in this world, except these two children. My husband and three of my babies died of it, and now it has come again. Well, sir, bless my heart! I worked over those children as I have rarely worked before or since. But the disease had certainly declared itself on board, and although I took every precaution, one of the children died before reaching port, and the other in a hotel in Liverpool. The mother resented herself solemnly to my great grief. She said that when they were taken ill she knew they would not recover.'—Brooklyn Bulletin.

A Handsome Reward.

While walking on a Galveston wharf Mrs. Snively fell into the bay and was rescued with difficulty by a stranger. Mr. Snively shook the hand of the rescuer of his wife, and said:

"You have saved my wife from a watery grave, and I must reward you for it."

"I only did my duty. I do not desire any remuneration."

"Well, if you will not accept my money I'll give you a piece of advice that will be worth something to you. It will save you a doctor's bill. Don't eat sausage in summer. I know what they are made of. I'm a butcher by trade."

—Pearl Siffring.

A nice old gentleman, seeing a lad eating an orange, told the boy not to swallow the skin, because it would make him sick. The lad was thus saved from probable sickness by the nice old gentleman's thoughtfulness. The lad threw the skin out at the window, and the nice old gentleman went out and sat down very hard upon the sidewalk. The nice old gentleman will not tell his hearer that orange peels should not be eaten.—Boston Post.

—There are said to be between two thousand postmasters in the United States with a salary of less than five dollars a year. At Bodolia, W. C. says, the salary was also some—N. J. McElroy.